



DAVID E. JANSSEN  
Chief Administrative Officer

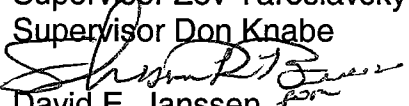
County of Los Angeles

## CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
(213) 974-1101

*hammond*

July 18, 2001

To: Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
From:   
David E. Janssen  
Chief Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors  
GLORIA MOLINA  
First District  
YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE  
Second District  
ZEV YAROSLAVSKY  
Third District  
DON KNABE  
Fourth District  
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Fifth District

### POLICY REGARDING AGE ELIGIBILITY FOR ADOPTING OLDER CHILDREN

As requested by Mayor Antonovich at the July 10, 2001 Board meeting, this is a report on the age requirements or maximum age of an individual or family applying to be adoptive parents. The report also responds to his question about whether there is a County or State policy regarding age requirements for adopting older children.

There is no County or State policy setting any age limits for adoptive parents. Each adoptive placement decision is based on an assessment of the individual child's total needs. Child assessment factors used to identify the primary needs that a prospective adoptive parent is expected to meet on behalf of a child include, but are not limited to, behavioral needs, developmental issues, educational needs, emancipation needs, emotional needs, hobbies, talents, special interests, language, medical needs, and religion.

During the home study process, other factors are considered to ensure an appropriate child/adoptive family match. These include, but are not limited to, the assessed ability of the adoptive parent to accept a child with behavioral, emotional, developmental, academic or health issues, and to participate in services on behalf of the child.

Please let me know if you need additional information, or your staff may contact Claudine Crank at (213) 974-2356 or Kathy House at (213) 974-1323.

DEJ:SRK  
CC:tld

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
Department of Children and Family Services

